

REMARKS

In traverse of the pending restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks.

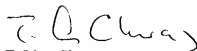
The current restriction requirement states that the original claims pertain to five different inventions. The Examiner states that Group I (Claims 1-3, and 20) is drawn to a serotonin reuptake inhibitor comprising a moiety with antidepressant properties and having an affinity for the serotonin reuptake transporter and a moiety having an affinity to serotonin (5-HT) receptors that are coupled to each other and a pharmaceutical composition including same. Applicants respectfully submit that a search for the “moiety with antidepressant properties and having an affinity for SERT” of Group I, would also necessarily include the “serotonin reuptake inhibitor” of Group III. Similarly, a search for the “moiety having affinity to 5-HT receptors” of Group I, the “5-HT receptor antagonism” of Group III would necessarily be included. Therefore, the search for Group I would include the elements of a search for Group III.

The Examiner states that Group IV (Claims 8-10, and 23), are drawn to a serotonin reuptake inhibitor comprising a structural homologue of an antidepressant serotonin-selective reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) capable of inhibiting serotonin reuptake transporter (SERT) coupled to a piperazine or piperidine moiety being antagonistic to a serotonin (5-HT) receptor and a pharmaceutical composition including same. Applicants respectfully submit that a search for the “moiety with antidepressant properties and having an affinity for SERT” of Group I, would include the “structural homologue of an antidepressant SSRI capable of inhibiting SERT” of Group IV, and a search for the “moiety having affinity to 5-HT receptors” of Group I, would include the “piperazine or piperidine moiety being antagonistic to a 5-HT receptor” of Group IV. Therefore the search for Group I would include the elements of a search for Group IV.

For all of these reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that the restriction requirement is inappropriate and request that the application proceed to further examination with the simultaneous election of **Groups I, III, and IV (Claims 1-3, 5-7, 8-10, 20, 22, 23)**.

If the Examiner has any questions which pertain to this Application or this response, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve these matters where possible.

Respectfully Submitted,



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